

Protecting Your Family From Fire Ants

(NAPSA)—Fire ants sting more than five million Americans every year. Those stings can be so bad that approximately 25,000 people are forced to seek medical attention annually. In extreme cases, fire ants can kill.

“Fire ants are extremely aggressive insects that thrive in sunny, open environments such as lawns and gardens,” said Bayer Advanced™ spokesman and horticulturist Lance Walheim. “When a mound is disturbed by a child or pet stepping or lying on it, worker ants boil out, swarm over the victim and inject venom repeatedly.”

Fire ants have been in the United States since the 1930s. They came in cargo ships from South America and arrived in the United States through the Port of Mobile in Alabama. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, fire ants now infest more than 310 million acres in this country. They're a big problem in the South and a growing problem in the Southwest and in parts of California.

Fire ants are $\frac{1}{16}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch long and reddish brown in color. They live in mounds with many underground tunnels. A queen ant lives up to seven years and produces an average of 1,600 eggs per day, so a fire ant colony can consist of as many as 250,000 ants.



How can you eliminate fire ants fast? Bayer Advanced Lawn® Fire Ant Killer contains one percent cyfluthrin in a ready-to-use dust that kills fire ants faster than organophosphate-based products. It doesn't have the unpleasant odor associated with many other fire ant dusts. Just shake the dust on the mound using the built-in shaker top and leave it. The worker ants track the powder into the mound, killing the queen and the entire ant colony quickly. The one-pound size can treat up to 130 mounds and can be used on lawns, flowerbeds, ground covers and around trees and shrubs.

You can learn more about caring for your lawn and garden and about discounts on various products by visiting www.bayeradvanced.com or by calling 1-877-BAYERAG.